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Kukkarahalli Lake rejuvenation

Rs. 63.80 lakh DPR contract SCRAPPED

Mysuru, Aug. 6 (MTY&BCT)- The Mysuru District Administration has cancelled the contract awarded to the New Delhi-based Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) for preparing a Detailed Project Report (DPR) on the rejuvenation of Kukkarahalli Lake.

In 2024, the then Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA), now rebranded as Mysuru Development Authority (MDA), had commissioned the Principal Director of INTACH's Natural Heritage Division to prepare the DPR with a budget allocation of Rs. 63.80 lakh.

Apart from Kukkarahalli Lake, the project also covered mapping the 22-km Dewan Purnaiah Canal and Lingambudhi Lake. Following the contract award, INTACH carried out an aerial survey and submitted a preliminary report containing a database on Kukkarahalli Lake.

(See DPR on page 7)

> "The contract has been cancelled. Officially, the work order for INTACH was never issued. We are bound by established rules, and any development project we undertake must go through a formal tendering process. Mysuru Development Authority will soon invite fresh tenders, in which INTACH may also participate."
>
>
>
> **—G. Lakshmikanth Reddy, Deputy Commissioner**

Six years & still...

Saraswathipuram Fire Station heritage structure still in ruins

By Mohan Kayaka

Mysuru, Aug. 6- It has been six long years since the front portion of the heritage building housing the Saraswathipuram Fire Station in Mysuru collapsed. Yet, mired in political wrangling and bureaucratic apathy, the safety of firefighters stationed there remains gravely compromised.

The structure came crashing on Aug. 9, 2019, at 3.15 pm — ironically, on the day of the Varamahalakshmi festival. In the aftermath, promises were made, visits were conducted, but action has been elusive.

Back then, CM H.D. Kumaraswamy, his successor Basavaraj Bommai, former MP Prathap Simha, former Chamaraja MLA L. Nagendra, current MP Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar and current Chamaraja MLA K. Harishgowda, all inspected the site. Beyond token visits, however, no meaningful steps were taken to safeguard the lives of personnel working in the crumbling structure — a reality firefighters describe as both tragic and unforgivable.

(See FIRE on page 7)

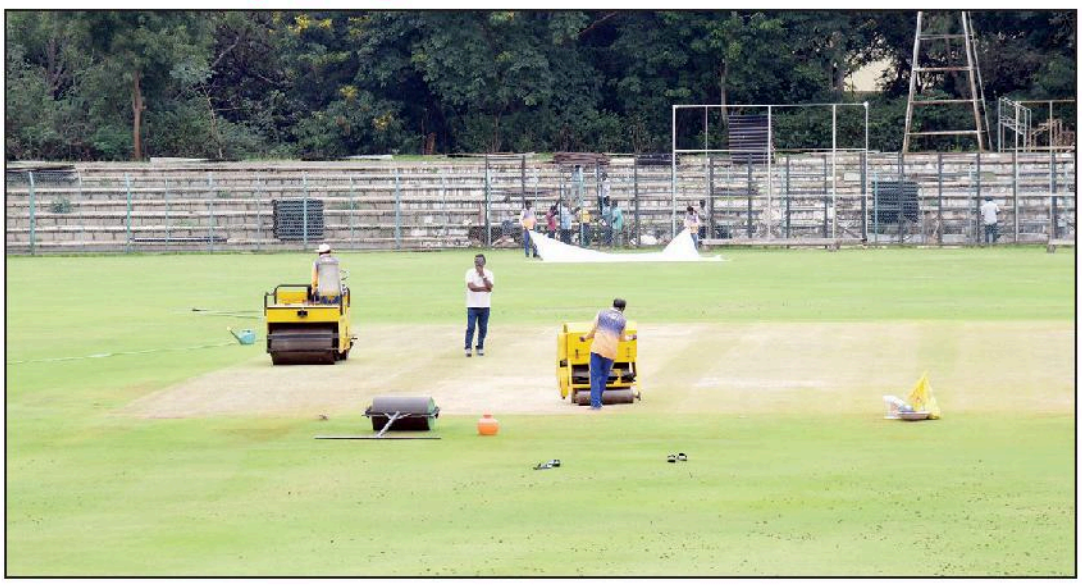
Maharaja Trophy: All matches in Mysuru?

Spectators barred; only players, team owners, media to be allowed

Mysuru, Aug. 6 (VNS)- The Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) is all set to host the fourth edition of Maharaja T20 Tournament in Mysuru.

According to sources, Bengaluru City Police is said to have denied permission to host the tournament at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, following which the KSCA Managing Committee decided to host the tournament at the SDNR Wadiyar Stadium in Mysuru city from Aug. 11 to Aug. 28.

Sources further added that the Bengaluru Police is said to have denied permission following the stampede incident that took place in front of the Chinnaswamy Stadium on June 4 where 11 persons were killed. The case is still under investigation.



Groundsmen preparing wickets at SDNR Wadiyar Stadium in Mysuru this morning.

The KSCA is said to have also written to the Office of the Mysuru City Police Commissioner seeking permission to host the tournament in Mysuru.

(See MATCHES on page 6)

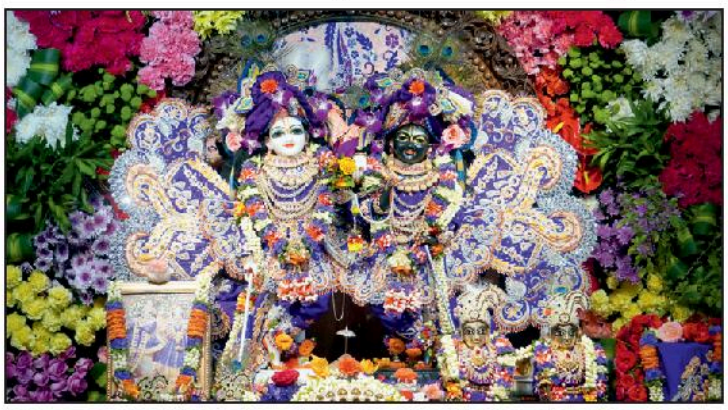
STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Wednesday 6th August 2025

Balarama Jayanti celebrations at ISKCON Mysuru on Aug. 9



Mysuru, Aug. 6- The International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) Temple in Jayanagar, Mysuru, is set to observe Balarama Jayanti on Aug. 9.

The auspicious occasion will feature special devotional programmes and rituals throughout the day. Devotees are invited to participate in a fast until noon, in accordance with traditional practices for Balarama Jayanti.

The main ceremonies are scheduled to commence at 6 pm in the temple's Sri Dham Hall. The evening programme will include a Mahabhisheka, a grand anointing ceremony for the revered Sri Krishna-Balarama deities.

This will be followed by Pushparchana (offering of flowers), a solemn Mangalarati and the chanting of uplifting Kirtans (devotional songs).

The Temple Management has, in a press release, asked all devotees and members of the public to attend these celebrations, seek the blessings of Lord Balarama and Lord Krishna, and partake in the spiritual festivities.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

STRANGE HOMECOMING: ***Returning home after being away for two months, I wonder if it is indeed a homecoming. I put on a switch to turn on a fan. Instead a light comes on. I try another switch, another light, no fan. Third switch, a fan starts revolving.***

In the kitchen I can't find the coffee. I finally discover it, tucked away behind a jar of pickles.

I turn on the electric kettle to make the coffee, and I can't find my coffee mug.

Everything seems strange and unfamiliar. The sizes and shapes of the rooms. The arrangement of the furniture. Was that table lamp always there, or somewhere else? And weren't there different cushions on the divan than these?

It's as though some mischievous sprite has come into the house, and changed around the furniture and furnishings, rewired the electrical switches so that I don't know which is which, hidden the coffee and coffee mug just in order to confuse and disorient me and make me wonder if the home I think I've returned to is really my home, or that of some perfect stranger.

I'm not the only one feeling a sense of displacement, of not knowing where I am, or where the things I'm looking for might be.

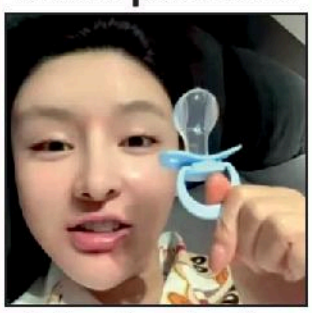
Bunny says she can't locate her favourite T-shirt, or the shoes she wears when we go for our daily evening walk. Who has hidden them? The same imp of mischief who hid my coffee and my mug?

And of course the imp playing pranks on us is our own misplaced memory, caused by lengthy absence, which makes us see accustomed things with unaccustomed eyes, puts everyday things in unremembered places, turns routine into the random. As the initial strangeness of homecoming begins to wear off, it reaffirms afresh our sense of place, and by doing so, our sense of ourselves.

We are the ones who made this place a home. And, returning the favour, our home made us who we are. That's the true homecoming. *—Jug Suraiya in The Times of India*

NEWS SPARKLERS

Youths fight stress with adult pacifiers



Beijing: There is a bizarre stress-relief trend sweeping these days – thousands of grown-ups in China are relying on adult pacifiers to mitigate stress symptoms like anxiety and insomnia.

Adult pacifiers has turned into a full-blown craze in the Asian country, with thousands of young adults spending between 10 and 500 yuan ($1.40 and $70) on plastic pacifiers.

They are often sold as stress and anxiety relief products or sleep aids, and for many people overwhelmed by daily life, these simple marketing phrases are enough to trigger a buying impulse.

Chinese e-commerce platforms are full of offers for adult pacifiers, and the most successful stores sell thousands of them every month.

Mother, teacher caught trying to steal exam papers

Seoul: A South Korean student's mother and her tutor were recently arrested after trying to break into the girl's school in order to steal exam papers and ensure that she aced her tests.

On July 4, at around 2 am, the alarm went off at a girls' school in Andong, North Gyeongsang and CCTV camera footage showed two women trying to access an office where copies of school exams were stored. The perpetrators were arrested the next day and an investigation found that one of them was the mother of a valedictorian student at the school, and the other was a former teacher there who had been tutoring the same student for years.

Investigators believe that the teacher had been providing the girl's mother with test papers for at least two years, as bank records show that she received 1,440 dollars from the woman since 2023.

HEALTH CAPSULE

All Wounds Aren't Visible

If patient has vomiting or disorientation after injury think internal bleeding. Get it checked.

By the Centre for Trauma Care
Manipal Hospitals, Mysore

manipalhospitals
LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

Skill Training at RUDSETI

Mysuru, Aug. 6-The Rural Development and Self Employment Training Institute (RUDSETI), Mysuru, will be conducting the following Skill Training Programme at its premises in Hinkal:

Two-Wheeler Mechanic Training from Aug. 18 to Sept. 16 and Computer Hardware & Networking Training from Aug. 21 to Oct. 7.

The training is free of cost including boarding and lodging. Candidates aged between 18 and 45 years, who can read and write in Kannada, are eligible to apply. Preference will be given to rural BPL candidates.

Interested candidates must apply with mobile number, photocopies of Aadhaar card and Ration card. Candidates will be selected based on direct interview.

For further details, contact Ph: 0821-2519663 or Mob: 97404-30061 or 94498-60466 or 6361019245 or 9880196581, according to a press release from the RUDSETI.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284 feet**	Maximum **2,859 feet**
Today's level **123.75 feet**	Today's level **2,282.09 feet**	Today's level **2,856.25 feet**
Last year's level **123.75 feet**	Last year's level **2,283.04 feet**	Last year's level **2,855.79 feet**
Yesterday's level **123.35 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,282.89 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,856.17 feet**
Today's Inflow **12,309 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **14,363 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **3,796 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **5,776 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **20,050 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **3,458 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- ***Penguin tongues have unique adaptations for catching and swallowing slippery prey like fish and krill. They are covered in backward-facing, spine-like structures called papillae made of keratin, which act like tiny hooks to grip food and guide it towards the throat, as penguins swallow their food whole. These papillae are soft and rubbery, not sharp teeth. The tongue itself is also quite large and strong, playing a crucial role in their feeding process.***
- ***Bear tongues, particularly those of sun bears, are fascinating adaptations for foraging. Sun bears, despite being the smallest bear species, have the longest tongues, reaching up to 25 centimetres (10 inches). This long, sticky tongue is crucial for extracting insects like termites and ants, as well as honey from hard-to-reach places like tree trunks and nests.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Patient: *Is doctor inside?*
Attender: *No, he has gone out.*
Patient: *Where has he gone?*
Attender: *He has gone out to see a doctor.*
Patient: *Why?*
Attender: *He is not doing well.*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 87.68
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 116.68
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 23.87
1 Euro	= Rs. 101.56

VOICE OF THE READER

KSRTC 'Shakti' scheme without accountability

'We were forced to sit on the bus floor'

Sir,

Following a professional event in Bengaluru, my colleague and I boarded a KSRTC non-stop bus (KA-09-F-5514) to Mysuru from Bengaluru's Satellite Bus Stand at around 10 pm.

As women professionals who frequently travel between cities, we trusted the State-run transport system. Due to a personal emergency, I needed to return home, and we requested the driver to let us de-board before the bus departed.

Despite repeated requests, he refused and shut the automatic door, citing fear of losing his job. The conductor from another bus, also a woman, supported his decision and asked him to continue.

The driver insisted that we could only be allowed to leave if two other women boarded in our place — an unreasonable and arbitrary condition. Despite fellow passengers asking him to reconsider, he refused.

During this time, my colleague's phone was switched off, and my phone had only 3 percent battery left. We felt helpless and isolated.

Our seats were taken by new passengers, and we both were forced to sit on the floor due to exhaustion until 2.30 am. Though it was a non-stop service, the bus later stopped at Mandya and near Mysuru for breaks — highlighting a clear inconsistency in its so-called policy.

This experience was not only distressing but also a violation of our autonomy and safety. While the Government's free bus travel initiative for women under the 'Shakti' scheme is commendable, it must be accompanied by accountability, proper training, and effective emergency support.

No woman should be forced to stay in a public vehicle against her will. It is time we ensured that our public transport systems are not just accessible, but also safe and respectful.

—Apoorva Prakash
Mysuru
30.7.2025

Bone and Joint Day observed

Mysuru, Aug. 6 (KS)- The Mysore Orthopaedic Association (MOA), in association with Mysore Medical College and Research Institute (MMC&RI), observed Bone and Joint Day at a function organised at PKTCC Auditorium in city recently.

The Day was observed with the theme 'Elderly Care: Prevention and Treatment of Fractures in the Elderly,' advocated by the Indian Orthopaedic Association (IOA). MMC&RI Dean & Director Dr. K.R. Dakshayani was the chief guest. Senior Orthopaedic Surgeon Dr. K. Mahadev, Physician Dr. H. Sunil and Tanuja were present at guests of honour.

The event aimed to create awareness on the growing burden of fragility fractures among the elderly and the need for preventive care.

Addressing the gathering, the dignitaries emphasised on the critical role of early diagnosis, community outreach and rehabilitation in enhancing the quality of life of elderly citizens.

As part of the week-long elderly care initiatives, Bone Mineral Density (BMD) camps for early detection of Osteoporosis, Continuing Medical Education (CME) sessions on geriatric orthopaedic care, visits to old age homes, free elderly care clinics are being held. MMC&RI Professor & HoD of Orthopaedics and MOA President Dr. Shobha, Nodal Officer Dr. Neelan Gowda Patil, Dr. Prashanth, MOA Secretary Dr. S.R. Anand & Treasurer Dr. M.K. Deepak were present.

MP Yaduveer inaugurates Hearzap Hearing Care Centre in city

Mysuru, Aug. 6- As a significant milestone in hearing healthcare in city, Hearzap Hearing Care Centre was inaugurated by Yaduveer Wadiyar, titular head of Mysore Royal Family and Mysuru-Kodagu MP, at 453, MG Road, Agrahara, Fort Mohalla, in city recently.

The inauguration, organised by Dr. Praveen Chowthi, Chief Audiologist at Hearzap, marks another step forward in Hearzap's commitment to providing accessible and technology-driven hearing care across India. The event was attended by Dr. M. Jayaram, Director & Professor, Institute of Speech & Hearing, Bengaluru and former Director, AIISH Mysuru, Dr. Vinay Swarnalatha Nagaraj, Professor of Audiology, Norwegian University of Science & Technology and S. Raja, Audiologist, Founder & Managing Director, Hearzap.

Hearzap is a pioneering digital hearing care ecosystem that blends mobile and clinic-based services to provide a complete 360-degree solution — from hearing screening and diagnosis to expert consultation, hearing aid trials, fitting and rehabilitation. Backed by a legacy of over 49 years in hearing healthcare, Hearzap India Pvt. Ltd. operates over 150+ clinics across the country, with a team of 200+ certified audiologists, making it India's largest and most integrated hearing care network.

With 18 centres in Karnataka alone, including 14 in Bengaluru, Hearzap is bringing advanced hearing technology and personalised care to the doorsteps of thousands. The new Mysuru centre is a part of this growing mission.

The new Hearzap Hearing Care Centre in Mysuru will offer free hearing consultations, comprehensive hearing assessments, latest hearing aid trials (digital & rechargeable), personalised fitting and rehabilitation, post-sale support and servicing.

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LIFE'S ON
Dreaming of Holding Those Tiny Little Fingers?
Join us for an insightful session
Speaker:
Dr. Nivedita Shetty
Director & Consultant - Reproductive Medicine (IVF)
10th August 2025
10:30 AM – 1:00 PM
(Followed by Lunch)
Manipal Hospital Mysuru
To Register: 96206 33255
Special Fertility Package @ Rs 1750
(Valid from 11th Aug to 31st Oct - 25)
Package Inclusions:
- Consultation | Ultrasound | TSH | HbA1c | Semen Analysis
- 10% Discount on Lab & Radiology
The package is for new registrations only.
The summit is open for all.

NEWS BRIEFS

No power supply tomorrow

As Chamundeshwari Electricity Supply Corporation (CESC) has taken up its second quarterly maintenance works, at Karakanahalli Power Distribution Centre (Hootagalli Sub-Division), there will be no power supply tomorrow between 10 am and 6 pm at Karakanahalli, Yachegowdanahalli, Gungral Chatra, Chokkanahalli, Megalapura, Ramenahalli, Kallur, Naganahalli, Dadadakallahalli, Yalachanahalli, Ratnahalli, Yelwal, RMP, Kamanakoppal, Erappanakoppal, Bhadregowdanakoppal, Hosakote, Yaddahalli and surrounding areas, according to a press release from CESC Executive Engineer N.R. Mohalla Division.

Inter-Collegiate Competitions

Vijaya Vittala Composite PU College, Saraswathipuram, has organised a City-Level Inter-Collegiate Bhavageetha and General Knowledge Quiz Competitions for PU students at its premises on Aug. 23 from 9.30 am. Two students from each college can participate in both contests. Those interested may register their names before Aug. 20 at the College Office For details, contact Ph: 0821-4243700, according to a press release from College Principal H. Satyaprasad.

Yajur Upakarma

The Hebbar Sreevaishnava Upasabha, K R Vanam, has organised Yajur Upakarma at Sri Rama Mandira in Krishnamurthypuram on Aug. 9 at 7.30 am. For details, contact Mob: 63636-43981 or 94489-82563, according to a press release.

Ph.D awardees

M. Kusuma has been awarded Ph.D in English by the University of Mysore (UoM) for her thesis 'Rethinking Valour: Radicalism and Propaganda in Select Indian Military Novels' submitted under the guidance of Dr. C.E. Sujatha.

Ramesha has been awarded Ph.D in Mathematics by the University of Mysore (UoM) for his thesis 'A Study on Some Domination and Related Concepts in Graphs' submitted under the guidance of Dr. Puttaswamy.

Confusion over GST notices

Commercial Tax Department holds workshop on UPI-linked process

Mysuru, Aug. 6 (GA&TRR)- To address widespread confusion and concerns among merchants and the business community following the recent issuance of notices, the Commercial Tax Department had organised a workshop at its premises in city on Monday.

Speaking at the workshop, P.D. Shobha, In-charge Joint Commissioner (Administration Division) of Commercial Tax Department, reassured businessmen that there was no need to panic upon receiving notice from the Department.

"Merchants and businessmen who receive notices can always visit the office to clarify their doubts and seek any information they require. Do not panic the moment you receive a notice. Come to the office or contact the Department directly to get your queries resolved," advised the Joint Commissioner.

Clarifying the basis for the notices, she explained, "Our Department collected information from UPI transactions and issued communications to merchants based on that data. In fact, these were not notices in the legal sense, but were merely informational. The lack of awareness among the business community created unnecessary confusion. However, Mysuru citizens are generally well-informed, so panic was minimal."

Commercial Tax Joint Commissioner P.D. Shobha addressing the gathering during the GST Workshop organised at Commercial Tax office premises in city on Monday as Mysuru Hotel Owners Association President C. Narayanagowda and Mysore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) President K.B. Lingaraju look on.

Threshold for GST registration

Supreet Dev, Assistant Commissioner, Commercial Tax Office clarified misconceptions regarding GST. "GST is not being levied based on UPI transactions. Rather, UPI transaction data is being used to identify businesses whose turnover exceeds the threshold for GST registration, he added.

The Assistant Commissioner provided details on GST registration, annual turnover limits and exemptions. He urged merchants not to panic and to approach the Department for clarifications. "Businessmen can submit their relevant documents and provide proof of their turnover. The Department will assess GST liability based on these submitted records," he explained.

Exempt items

He further outlined the turnover thresholds: An annual limit of Rs. 40 lakh for those engaged exclusively in goods and Rs. 20 lakh for service-oriented businesses. He also clarified which items attract GST and which are exempt. "Ghee, ice cream, edible oils, processed food, hotel services and certain other goods and services are taxed under GST, while fresh fruits, vegetables, mutton, unprocessed food grains, and education services are exempted," he informed.

Explaining the registration process, Supreet Dev informed that GST registration can be done online by logging on to www.gst.gov.in using Aadhaar card, PAN card, a photograph, proof of business address and bank account details. Applicants must first fill Application A and enter the OTP, followed by Application B (detailing turnover). GST registration will be issued upon official approval and is entirely free of cost.

For assistance, business owners can contact Ph: 0821-2420360, toll-free number 1800-425-6300, or visit the office between 10 am and 5:30 pm.

Mysuru Hotel Owners Association President C. Narayanagowda, thanked the officials and urged all merchants and businessmen to complete their GST registration promptly, calling it a "simple and straightforward process."

Minister Mahadevappa's KRS Dam remark

Former Mayor calls for end to misinterpretation

Mysuru, Aug. 6 (GA&BCT)- Former Mayor Purushotham has defended District Incharge Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa's statement about Tipu Sultan laying the foundation stone for Krishna Raja Sagar (KRS) Dam, asserting that it is historically accurate. However, he expressed concern that the statement is being distorted to create unnecessary controversy.

Purushotham

Speaking at a press conference at Patrakarthara Bhavan, Purushotham said, "Tipu Sultan was indeed the first to lay the foundation stone for KRS Dam. But due to war defeats, the project did not advance during his rule. Minister Mahadevappa merely pointed out this historical fact, which is supported by evidence near the Dam."

He recalled that during the ground-breaking ceremony of the Dam in 1911, under Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar's reign, a stone attributed to Tipu Sultan was discovered and installed near the site. "There is no dispute that Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar is the true architect of the KRS Dam," he emphasised.

Purushotham further highlighted that the Dalit community reveres Nalwadi Wadiyar. "Minister Mahadevappa has never spoken against Nalwadi or the Mysore Royal Family. Allegations that he made the statement to appease the Muslim community are baseless," he said, urging people to stop spreading divisive narratives.

"We hold deep respect for Mysuru-Kodagu MP Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar, who is also the scion of the royal family. But it is inappropriate for him to suggest that Minister Mahadevappa's statement was politically motivated to appease a community," Purushotham added and pointed to the presence of statues of both Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar and Sir M. Visvesvaraya at KRS Dam. "If Yaduveer talks about symbolic purity, why not question Visvesvaraya's statue? He was an engineer, not a ruler. Shouldn't Yaduveer reflect on that?" he asked.

Supporting Mahadevappa's remarks, progressive thinker Prof. K.S. Bhagawan said, "If you visit Kannambadi Katte site, you'll see three stones — one in Arabic, one in English and one in Kannada — stating that the Dam's foundation was laid with divine grace. Minister Mahadevappa simply highlighted this historical detail."

He also criticised misleading narratives, citing a Dr. Rajkumar film song that credits Visvesvaraya for preventing the unchecked flow of Cauvery. "Visvesvaraya contributed for just one year, but Kannambadi Katte project took 21 years to complete. Nalwadi Wadiyar was the real visionary," Bhagawan asserted.

Siddaswamy, Somaiah Maleyur, Bhugatgalli Maniyappa, and Puttaraju were present at the press meet.

Youth goes missing from city

Mysuru, Aug. 6 (KS)-A 19-year-old youth, who was studying in National Association for the Blind (NAB) Industrial Training Institute (ITI) for deaf and blind at Yadavagiri Industrial Area and residing at a rented room in Sri Anjaneyaswamy Temple premises at Manjunathapura, has gone missing since July 27 from city.

Sharath

The missing youth is M.M. Sharath. He is speech and hearing impaired, 4.8 ft. tall, normal built, oily red complexioned, oval faced, has 'AMMA' tattooed on his left hand and was wearing a silver bangle on his right hand, silver chain around his neck, silver finger ring on his right hand finger, light blue coloured T-shirt and black shorts at the time of going missing.

Those having any information about the missing youth may contact VV Puram Police Station on Ph: 0821-2418314 or call Police Control Room on Ph: 0821-2418339, according to a press release.

Smoky dumpyard

Wire-burning menace chokes Hale Kesare, Rajivnagar; residents breathe poison

Mysuru, Aug. 6 (MK&BCT)- A suffocating blanket of toxic smoke has engulfed Hale Kesare and Rajivnagar 3rd Stage (near Varuna Canal), where mounds of garbage are being dumped and electrical wires openly burned daily in broad daylight.

The stretch of the Varuna Canal, running along the Outer Ring Road (ORR) and cutting through these neighbourhoods, has been turned into a sprawling, unregulated dumping ground for truckloads of waste.

In the inner lanes of Rajivnagar 3rd Stage (RTO-55 zone), heaps of plastic, electrical components and wires are torched daily. Waste is dumped along both banks of the Varuna Canal, much of it sliding straight into the water. The wires are set ablaze to strip out copper filaments, and the ash is tossed into the canal, poisoning its flow.

No clean air

The mix of garbage and thick, acrid smoke has created a hazardous atmosphere, transforming the area into a hub for illegal and unsafe activities. Residents wake up every morning to the sight of smouldering piles and the stench of burning plastic, stripped of their basic right to clean air. Just off Outer Ring Road, along the Hale Kesare stretch, the right bank of the canal offers a disturbing sight — a 200-metre stretch, nearly 50 feet wide, carpeted with plastic and electrical waste. Scrap collectors arrive with truckloads of wires, torch them for copper, then leave behind toxic ash and half-burnt debris.

Burning for metal extraction

The burning of electrical wires for copper has become routine. The charred residue is dumped directly into the canal, contaminating the water and nearby farmlands. Farmers fear the toxic runoff is seeping into soil and crops, endangering both health and livelihoods. Despite the rise in residential buildings, vast vacant plots near the canal have devolved into dumping grounds, wire-burning sites and hideouts for other suspicious activity. Overgrown vegetation and lack of oversight have left area feeling abandoned, with residents unsure which authority, if any, is accountable.

No civic monitoring

Locals lament that Hale Kesare and Rajivnagar 3rd Stage fall outside Mysuru's core administrative focus. Elected representatives and officials rarely visit, leaving grievances unheard. "We live surrounded by garbage and breathe poisonous air. This is our misfortune," said members of Hale Kesare Janaspandana Committee.

Residents foil wire-burning attempt near Varuna Canal

Mysuru, Aug. 6 (MK&BCT)- In Rajivnagar 3rd Stage, along the Varuna Canal, three men transporting electrical wires in an auto (KA-09-B-3884) were caught red-handed by residents while attempting to burn the wires to extract copper.

The trio had brought three sacks of serial-set wires and had already started separating and setting them ablaze on the canal bank. Thick plumes of smoke drew the attention of nearby residents, who rushed to the spot, doused the flames, and confronted the men.

During questioning, the accused admitted it was their first attempt in the area, claiming they were trying to earn quick money by selling the copper. They pleaded not to be reported and promised not to return.

Residents issued a stern warning and said, "You may earn a few rupees by burning wires, but thousands here are losing their health. The toxic fumes are dangerous, cause lasting harm, and pollute the environment. This is also a criminal offence."

Beetle, not burglar...

Beetle sets off ATM alert at Chettalli; sparks wee-hour Police response

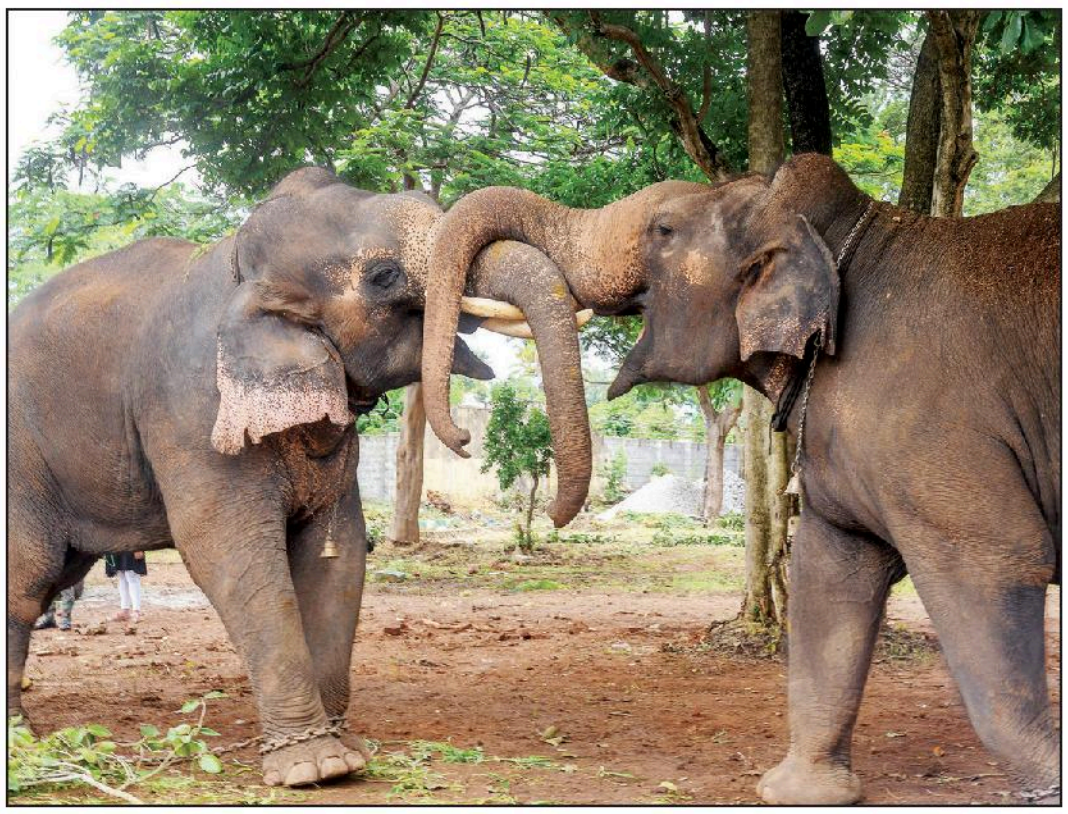
The beetle is seen burrowing the ATM kiosk floor at Chettalli.

Chettalli (Kodagu), Aug. 6 (BCT)- A late-night security scare at the Canara Bank ATM in Chettalli in Kodagu district turned out to be an unusual false alarm — caused by a beetle.

In wee hours of today, the Bengaluru Police Control Room flagged a possible breach at the ATM kiosk and relayed the alert to the Chettalli Police Outpost. Acting swiftly, ASI Dinesh and his team rushed to the spot at around 2 am. On inspection, officers found no signs of forced entry or malfunction. But a small hole at the bottom of the ATM door caught their eye. Peering closer, they discovered unlikely culprit — a large black beetle attempting to squeeze inside the machine. The insect was removed, and all-clear was given. The information was later relayed to Bengaluru Police Control Room.

The Canara Bank branch at Chettalli was closed for nearly six months. A new ATM was installed but faced repeated power issues, requiring repairs. It was restored two days ago, only to find itself in news again for this bizarre incident.

A friendly bout...



Dasara elephants Bhima and Ekalavya, who arrived in city on Monday evening along with seven other elephants and relaxing at Aranya Bhavan in Ashokapuram were seen indulging in a friendly bout much to the delight of curious onlookers yesterday. Following the arrival of nine Dasara elephants to Aranya Bhavan on Monday evening, entry to public was restricted for some time yesterday morning as a large crowd had thronged Aranya Bhavan to have a glimpse of the jumbos. Later, the gate was open and the public were cautioned not to venture close to the elephants.

Gautham Sagar and Jayanth drafted into Mysore Warriors

Gautham Sagar Jayanth

Mysuru, Aug. 6 (VNS)- NR Group, owners of Mysore Warriors, have announced inclusion of two outstanding catchment area players from the city, for the upcoming KSCA Maharaja Trophy 2025.

The team management has selected medium pacers Gautham Sagar and M.R. Jayanth to be a part of the team for the upcoming tournament.

The two players were selected from a pool of 184 participants during the Mysore Warriors Talent Hunt held in Mysuru.

Out of the 184 participants, 10 players were shortlisted and were invited to an intensive training session alongside the main squad. After rigorous practice and close evaluation, Gautham and Jayanth ended in the Warriors lineup

Gautham Sagar, a standout player and Right-arm Medium Pacer, brings a surge of youthful energy and cricketing finesse to the Mysore Warriors.

His sharp technique and competitive edge are poised to strengthen the team's lineup as they gear up for the Maharaja Trophy 2025. Gautham Sagar represents Jo Jo Cricket Club.

M.R. Jayanth, a promising Right-arm Medium pacer, joins the squad with a reputation for consistent on-field brilliance. His achievements at the junior level speak volumes of his potential, making him a valuable asset to the Mysore Warriors' championship campaign. M.R. Jayanth is from Karavali Cricket Club.

Speaking about the selection, Arjun Ranga, Owner of Mysore Warriors and Managing Director of Cycle Pure Agarbathi, said, "We are delighted to welcome Gautham Sagar and Jayanth to the Mysore Warriors squad. Their inclusion reflects our unwavering commitment to nurturing grassroots talent and providing local players with a platform to shine."

Pullela Gopichand launches Grassroots Badminton event

Badminton Coach Pullela Gopichand being felicitated at Sports Park in the city, during the launch of Grassroots Badminton Program recently. Seen in the picture are (from left) Badminton coach Anil, Sports Park Managing Partner Srikanth and coach Bheemaiah, Sports Park Head Coach Arun Pemmaiah, Fitness coach Anjan, Sports Park Managing Partner Sudheendra and coach Kuduva Ganesh.

Mysuru, Aug. 6- Legendary badminton player and coach Pullela Gopichand, inaugurated Grassroots Badminton Program at Sports Park in the city recently.

The initiative, hosted and facilitated by Sports Park, marks a major step forward in the city's efforts to become a hub for youth sports excellence.

"Sports Park is proud to host this landmark initiative with Gopichand," said by Arun Pemmaiah Sports Park Head Coach adding that the aim was to become the cradle of future badminton champions.

The newly launched Gopichand Grassroots Program, in collaboration with Sports Park, focuses on early-stage talent development, with structured coaching, technical training and mentorship directly inspired by Gopichand's proven methods. The facility will now serve as a regional centre for young players aspiring to train under world-class standards.

Pullela Gopichand spent the entire day observing young shuttlers, guiding them with technical corrections and encouraging local coaches.

The integration of the mentorship programme with the existing infrastructure of Sports Park in the city, is expected to elevate the level of training available to grassroots athletes in the region.

Maharaja Trophy: All matches in Mysuru?

(Continued from page 1)

However, it is believed that the Police Department is yet to reply to the KSCA authorities.

The tournament in Mysuru will be hosted under closed doors as decided by KSCA authorities earlier.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, one of the KSCA officials confirmed that the tournament is being hosted in Mysuru and is being held under closed doors, with only team owners and media persons allowed to watch matches.

City Police Commissioner Seema Latkar said that they were yet to scrutinise the application and hold talks with KSCA authorities before taking a decision.

The stadium has four wickets on which the matches will be played when compared to Chinnaswamy Stadium, which has about 10 wickets. Moreover, with no spectators allowed inside the stadium, the matches in tournament will have no glitter, as they will remind spectators of the cricket matches that were held during COVID-19 period.

Traditionally, the wickets at SDNR Wadiyar Stadium are batting-friendly, with teams having scored more than 200 runs in T20 cricket on a number of occasions. The Maharaja Trophy, being held before Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, will be a preparatory tournament for State cricketers to gear up for BCCI tournament.

'Run for Life' athletic meet on Aug. 10

Mysuru, Aug. 6 (GA&VNS)- Unique Athletic Club will be organising 'Run for Life' athletic meet at Chamundi Vihar Stadium in city on Aug. 10 from 8 am.

Addressing the press persons at Pathrakarthara Bhavan, here yesterday, Athletic Club member B.N. Mahesh said athlete Chiranth will inaugurate the meet. He added that the athletic meet will be held for various age groups including 4-6 years, 6-8 years, 8-10 years, 10-12 years, 12-14 years, 14-16 years and 16-18 years. Events such as 40 mts run to 300 mts run, long jump, 4x100 mts among others will be held. Entry fee for athletic event is Rs. 200, for relay event Rs. 400. Prizes will be awarded to winners of first three places along with participation certificates to all athletes. For details, contact Mob: 63643 20613.

Athletic Club members Lavanya, Harshitha and Hema Shah Rajput were present.

Farmer dumps cabbage at Bandipalya

Middleman pays Rs. 30,000 relief

Mysuru, Aug. 6 (MK&KS) - A cabbage farmer from Hassan, who suffered a loss of over Rs. 1.50 lakh after being forced to dump 14 tonnes of produce at the APMC market in Bandipalya, Mysuru, received Rs. 30,000 in compensation from the middleman who had initially assured him a good price but later backed out, citing alleged damage to the cabbages.

Star of Mysore had published a news item titled 'Cabbage Dump!' on Aug. 1.

Ranganath is the farmer from Hassan who had dumped the cabbage. Following the publication of the news item, APMC officials issued a notice to middleman Chandrappa, who paid Rs. 30,000 as compensation to Ranganath.

APMC Supervisor Nagaraju said that middleman Chandrappa had been warned not to repeat such incident in the future and was made to pay the compensation to farmer Ranganath.

New KSISF Mysuru Battalion gets Police Commissioner's old office

Mysuru, Aug. 6 (BLU&BS)- The newly created Karnataka State Industrial Security Force (KSISF), Mysuru Battalion, will function out of the old City Police Commissioner's Office on Mirza Road, Nazarbad here.

In a latest development, CM Siddaramaiah has sent a missive dated July 29, 2025, to the Director General and Inspector General of Police (DG and IGP) to hand over the old City Police Commissioner's office building for the newly formed KSISF battalion of Mysuru division, as the latter doesn't have office space of its own, deterring the start of KSISF here.

Hence, the old City Police Commissioner's office building, which is lying vacant, can be temporarily allotted to KSISF.

Following this, Devajyoti Ray, Inspector General of Police (IGP), Grievances and Human Rights, on behalf of the DG and IGP, has issued an order dated Aug. 4, 2025, allotting a part of the old Mysuru City Police Commissioner's office building (extreme right, newly constructed) to KSISF, Mysuru battalion.

The copies have been marked to the Internal Security Division (ISD) and the Mysuru City Police Commissioner, for further action, quoting the letter of CM Siddaramaiah. When contacted, City Police Commissioner Seema Latkar said that the letter has been processed regarding the above proposal.

Posts allotted

The newly created KSISF Mysuru battalion will be allocated 1,192 posts, including 1,170 executive posts headed by a Commandant and 22 administrative staff headed by the Assistant Administrative Officer (AAO).

Saraswathipuram Fire Station heritage structure still in ruins

(Continued from page 1)

Miraculously, the 2019 collapse claimed no lives — only a postman's two-wheeler was damaged. But since that day, station staff have worked under a constant shadow of fear, unsure when the next disaster might strike.

Red tape stalls restoration

It took 19 days just to clear the debris, which was left dumped beneath a banyan tree. Authorities repeatedly cite the building's "heritage" tag as justification for inaction, allowing red tape to stall every attempt at restoration.

After the collapse, regional Fire Officers were shifted to other stations — one to Bannimantap, the Chief Fire Officer to Hebbal — but the District Fire Officer and Station Officer remain at the unsafe premises. The Control Room too continues to function there, raising serious safety concerns.

Built in 1898 during the reign of the Mysore Maharajas, the once-proud heritage structure now stands abandoned and stripped of its dignity. Since the collapse, neither the administration nor elected representatives have bothered to ask how safe it is or how firefighters stationed there are coping.

A grant of Rs. 22 lakh was sanctioned for reconstructing the collapsed portico of the Saraswathipuram Fire Station. However, when the Public Works Department (PWD) proposed using standard cement mortar, heritage conservationists raised objections, insisting that the structure be restored with traditional lime-and-egg-based mortar — the same technique used in the original construction.

As heritage-grade materials and methods would significantly raise costs, officials deemed the sanctioned amount inadequate for authentic restoration. To prevent the funds from lapsing, the amount was instead diverted toward repairing compound walls and constructing a storeroom at the Bannimantap Fire Station, according to Regional Fire Officer P. Chandan.

Trapped in a political tug-of-war

The fate of the Saraswathipuram Fire Station's heritage building remains in limbo, trapped in a tug-of-war between political leaders over how it should be rebuilt.

Mysuru-Kodagu MP Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar has pushed for restoring the 127-year-old structure in its original design to preserve its historical character. In contrast, Chamaraja MLA K. Harishgowda has argued that retaining the old structure could invite further complications and insists that a new building would be more practical.

A senior Fire Official, speaking on condition of anonymity, confirmed that the deadlock between the two elected representatives has stalled progress. "Six years have passed since the portico collapse, but not a single step has been taken toward restoration," the official said.

Frustrated citizens have criticised the prolonged inaction, calling it emblematic of the administration's apathy toward both heritage preservation and the safety of firefighters who continue to work at the damaged site.

Crumbling quarters force staff to bear rental burden

The crisis at the Saraswathipuram Fire Station extends beyond its damaged heritage building — the 64 staff quarters located behind the station have also fallen into severe disrepair, forcing firefighters out of their official accommodation.

Not a single firefighter resides in the quarters anymore, as the structures are deemed unsafe and at constant risk of collapse. With no alternative housing provided, personnel are compelled to rent homes nearby, shelling out thousands of rupees each month from their modest salaries.

The financial burden is heavy, as firefighters struggle to balance rent, household expenses and children's education on limited pay. "If the quarters were livable, we could have saved on rent," lamented several staff members, voicing their frustration at the prolonged neglect and lack of support.

Rs. 63.80 lakh DPR contract scrapped

(Continued from page 1)

However, the contract was issued without following the mandatory tendering process. This decision invited public criticism, with environmentalists questioning the propriety of awarding the contract directly to INTACH.

A complaint was later filed with the Lokayukta, alleging misuse of public funds and financial loss to MUDA, in violation of the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurements (KTPP) Act. As per the contract, the DPR was to include a comprehensive assessment of the lake's surrounding areas, inlet channels, silt excavation feasibility, gradient, outlets and documentation of local flora and fauna.

Tendering norms

Confirming the cancellation, DC G. Lakshmikanth Reddy told *Star of Mysore* that all development works must comply with tendering norms.

"The contract has been cancelled. Officially, the work order for INTACH was never issued. We are bound by established rules, and any development project we undertake must go through a formal tendering process," he said.

On the future of the project, the DC stated that MDA will soon invite fresh tenders, in which INTACH may also participate. "The tendering process is currently underway and will be initiated shortly," he added.

When the DPR was originally allotted in 2024, the then DC, Dr. K.V. Rajendra, had defended the decision, stating that the contract award was legally valid and that there had been no procedural lapses on the part of the District Administration.

Encroachments, flooding risk

Mysore Grahakara Parishat (MGP) Founder-Working President Bhamy V. Shenoy emphasised the urgent need to address encroachments along the Dewan Purnaiah Canal.

"Encroachments along the canal pose a severe flooding risk during heavy rains, especially in the Saraswathipuram area adjoining Kukkarahalli Lake — a crisis narrowly averted a few years ago. Immediate restoration of the lake and canal clearance is essential to ensure proper water flow," he said.

Shenoy urged the authorities to expedite the tendering process so remedial work could commence without delay.

"Much groundwork has already been done by INTACH, including interim reports. MUDA has also gathered extensive data on canal encroachments through multiple drone surveys. This should enable the new study to be completed in a far shorter timeframe than what was previously allotted to INTACH," he added.

Third Anniversary

Dr. Benedicta Saldanha

(12.09.1945 - 06.08.2022)

Gates of memories will never close...

In loving memory
Dr. Xavier Ignatius and family

THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Dr. R. Balasubramaniam

Elevator Politics: The Privilege of Vertical Mobility

If patience is truly a virtue, then every employee in my office building — the venerable STC building (officially known as the Jawahar Vyapar Bhavan) on Janpath, New Delhi — should be eligible for sainthood. It is not because we have suddenly become paragons of meditation and self-restraint. It is due to the interminable, soul-testing, career-shortening wait for the elevator.

Now, before you assume I am just being dramatic, let me paint a picture. You step into the building, refreshed and enthusiastic (or as enthusiastic as one can be before the first coffee of the day). You press the button for the lift. You wait. You check your phone. You look around aimlessly. You check your phone again. You sigh audibly. Five minutes have passed, and there is no sign of movement. You begin contemplating whether it is faster to age gracefully on the ground floor or risk your knees and take the stairs to the twentieth floor where your office is located. Then suddenly — miraculously — the lift arrives!

Just as you are about to step in, an invisible force stops you. A security officer appears out of nowhere, brandishing his arm like a traffic cop at peak Connaught Place congestion.

"Sorry, sir. Special lift movement."

And just like that, the doors slide shut in your face. The lift is now exclusively reserved for one of our esteemed, 'special' elites. It ascends serenely, carrying its VIP occupant to their lofty destination. The journey is without the common folk cluttering their airspace.

Meanwhile, we mere mortals stay glued to the floor. We wonder if our careers will end before we even reach our desks.

The curious case of the 'special' lift riders

Now, I have nothing against VIPs. The government thrives on hierarchy, and some amount of protocol is understandable. But when a public lift starts functioning more like a private limousine, we have a problem. And trying to stick to my 'commoner' roots despite being eligible for these 'special' privileges left me wondering whether I can truly live my own convictions. More about my own confused convictions later.

Why is it that certain people — based on an invisible algorithm more complex than the one used by the Income Tax Department — are granted solo lift privileges? What happens in those moments of solitary ascension? Do they have secret policy meetings? Do they get a five-minute nap? Are they communing with the lift

gods for some special blessings? We, the people left stranded below, can only speculate.

The three stages of the elevator waiting game

As someone who has spent a considerable part of my last four years of government work life standing next to an unco-operative elevator, I have observed that the wait follows a predictable pattern:

1. Hopeful optimism: You press the button, believing that today will be different. The lift will come swiftly, and you will glide up without delay. You even smile at your colleagues.

2. Mild despair: Five minutes pass. You start fidgeting. Your courage of conviction is beginning to weaken. Temptation of privilege starts setting in.

3. Resignation to fate: A senior official enters the building. The security personnel spring into action, and you already know what is coming. You sigh, step back, and accept your destiny — your place in the pecking order cemented as firmly as the building's foundation. But at least your conscience is still untainted.

4. Joining the elites: You now realise that staying rooted in your beliefs is costing you time. It is also costing you efficiency. You convince yourself that it is better to be a part of the 'elites.' You start hoping that someday, this building will have more lifts functional than dysfunctional. (Only two out of the five lifts work, and we have been given the hope raising promise that the lifts will be repaired soon. Only that this promise is now years old, and my term will end sooner than the lifts being repaired.) You succumb to becoming a part of the elite and give yourself the justification of how important you too are to the system and the need to deploy your time to something more worthwhile.

A modest proposal: Equality in elevation

If democracy means anything at all, should it not extend to basic vertical mobility? Shouldn't we all, regardless of rank, share the same box of moving metal? Perhaps, in an ideal world, all lifts would follow the principle of first come, first served, rather than first rank, first ride.

Until that utopia arrives, I have devised a few coping strategies:

The "sprint and sneak" method: If you see an approaching VIP, make a run for it. Once inside, keep a strategic position at the back, avoiding eye contact and pretending to check e-mails. With luck, they won't evict you. If they politely ask you to, pull rank and let them know you are part of their privileged club too.

The "elevator camaraderie" hack: If enough people band together in collective resistance, we can create an *Occupy Elevator* movement. There is strength in numbers, and my activist past does sometime catch up with my current life. (Unless, of course, the lift has a weight limit.)

The staircase solution: While not ideal (or kind to one's knees), climbing twenty flights of stairs does wonders for fitness. You will arrive sweaty, but at least you will arrive. However, I have yet to try this strategy. Compromising seemed less arduous than walking up for the next thirty minutes.

Final thoughts from the lobby of the STC building

I may joke about it, but the lift situation in our office is intriguing. It reflects a larger truth — the delicate balance between privilege and equality. It reminds us that in every institution, some individuals are destined to ascend effortlessly. Others must press the button and wait. And wait. And wait.

But who knows? Maybe one day, an enlightened policy change will guarantee that we all ride the lift together, in perfect bureaucratic harmony. And isn't that something a part of my JD to deliver?

Until then, if you need me, I will be the guy standing next to the lift. I will be waiting and sighing. I will also be reconsidering my life choices.

[Dr. R. Balasubramaniam is the Founder of Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement. 'The Lighter Side' is a series of satirical articles meant to bring a smile by highlighting the funny side of everyday life.]

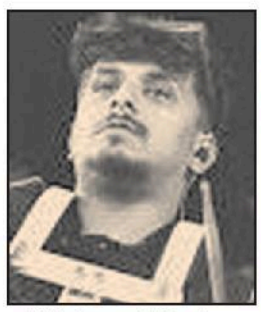
Instrumental extravaganza at Nadabrahma Sabha

Vid. Prasanna Ballal

Vid. A.N. Raghu Simha

Vid. H.L. Shivashankar

Vid. Shashank



Vid. Amogh Varsha

Vid. S. Manjunath

Vidu. Vani Yadunandan

Mysuru, Aug. 6- Sri Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha, Mysuru, has organised two instrumental extravaganzas at its premises on JLB Road in city for this weekend — Aug. 9 and 10.

Aug. 9 (6 pm): Dr. K. Srikantaiah Memorial Concert, sponsored by Dr. K.S. Chandrashekar, will be an Instrumental Ensemble of Karnatak Music by Vid. Prasanna Kumar Ballal on mandolin, Vid. A.N. Raghu Simha on flute, Vid. H.L. Shivashankar Swamy on mridanga, Vid. Shashank Rangaraju on tabla, Vid. Amogh Varsha on rhythm pad and Vid. S. Manjunath on ghata.

Aug. 10 (6 pm): Endowment Programme in Memory of Vasantalakshmi, sponsored by Seshadri Shekar Chakravarthy and Indumati Seshadri, will be a Veena Concert by senior artiste Vidu. Vani Yadunandan. She will be accompanied by Vid. H.S. Aprameya on mridanga and Vid. Likhith on morching, according to a press release from the Sabha.

End of an era...

Registered Post ends Sept. 1; to merge with Speed Post

By Bapu Lingaraj Urs

Mysuru, Aug. 6- The decades-old Registered Post service of the Postal Department is poised to enter the pages of history, with the Union Ministry of Communications — the authority overseeing Telecommunications and Postal Services in India — officially discontinuing the service effective Sept. 1.

This decision marks the end of an era for a service that has been integral to secure postal communication for decades. The Ministry has announced that the Registered Post facility will now be merged with the Department's Speed Post service, in what is described as a move to streamline postal operations and provide faster delivery options to the public.

The primary reason cited for scrapping Registered Post is its steadily declining usage. Once widely preferred for delivering legal and official communications, the service has seen a sharp fall in patronage over the years as digital modes of communication and alternative postal services gained prominence.

Historical role

Since its introduction in 1986, Registered Post has become the go-to service for securely dispatching documents requiring proof of delivery and authenticity. It was extensively used for sending Court orders, legal notices, employment offer letters, banking documents, government correspondence, and other critical communications that demanded accountability and tracking.

The hallmark feature of Registered Post was its strict delivery protocol: Postal staff were required to hand over the item only to the person it was addressed to, ensuring confidentiality and reliability. This made it a trusted service among citizens, especially for sensitive and legal documents.

Statistical decline

Data underscores the fall in demand. Post Offices across India handled 244.4 million Registered Post items in 2011-12, a number that fell to 184.6 million by 2019-20.

The decline has continued into 2024-25, prompting the Ministry to reevaluate the viability of continuing the service. With patronage at an all-time low, the decision was taken to phase it out and instead promote the already existing Speed Post service as a replacement.

Key differences

While Speed Post offers faster delivery, there are significant differences in service terms. Registered Post mandated personal delivery to the addressee, ensuring secure handover. In contrast, Speed Post can be received by anyone associated with the addressee, which, while convenient, has raised concerns about security and accountability.

Another key concern is cost. The base tariff for Registered Post stood at Rs. 26, whereas Speed Post begins at Rs. 41. Citizens accustomed to the lower pricing and stringent security of Registered Post worry that the merger may increase their expenses while diluting the personal delivery guarantee they relied on.

Trustworthy aspect

Many long-time users believe that Registered Post was safer and more trustworthy than Speed Post. For them, the decision marks not just a service change but the loss of an institution that provided peace of mind for decades.

G. Harish, Senior Superintendent of Post Offices, Mysuru Division, confirmed that the India Post website mentions the merger of Registered Post with Speed Post. However, he clarified that no official circular or notification has yet been received from the Union Ministry of Communications. "Until we receive an official intimation, I cannot comment on the matter," he stated.

The phasing out of Registered Post signals a major shift in the country's postal services, reflective of changing times and evolving communication methods. While the merger aims to offer quicker service, it also brings to an end a trusted legacy of postal reliability that many citizens grew up with.

History of postal services in India

The postal service in India traces its origins to the British era, when Governor-General Warren Hastings extended what was then an exclusive service for British citizens to the general public of India in 1774. This marked the first formal introduction of postal services in the country.

Several decades later, Lord Dalhousie, serving as Governor-General, enacted the Postal Services Act and established the first official Post Office in India on Oct. 1, 1854 — a milestone that laid the foundation for a nationwide postal network.

Over time, this network expanded steadily, evolving into the largest postal system in the world in recent years. Today, India boasts 1,64,987 Post Offices spread across 23 postal divisions nationwide.

Remarkably, this vast network has endured stiff competition from private courier companies, the rise of digital communications, e-commerce logistics, and other modern delivery agencies.

Through these challenges, India Post has retained the trust of the public for nearly two centuries, earning its reputation for reliability, efficiency, and resilience in the face of changing times.

After HC's slam, KSRTC workers call off strike

KSRTC, other Transport Corporations resume service on regular bus routes including Mysuru

Bengaluru/ Mysuru, Aug. 6 (KMS,PM&BS)- As the Divisional Bench of Karnataka High Court cracked a whip, warning to treat the KSRTC strike yesterday as a contempt of court, the protesting Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) employees and three other Transport Corporations, relented and returned to duty, restoring normalcy by same evening across the State.

The office-bearers of Joint Action Committee (JAC) of various trade unions associated with the Transport Corporations, drew inference from the High Court's serious observations, soon after the strike unfolded and announced to call off the strike, directing the staff to resume work without any delay.

Addressing media persons, H.V. Anantha Subbarao, President of Joint Action Committee said, following the advice of advocates, the strike has been temporarily called off and the agitating employees have been directed to return, with an assurance of standing with them.

In Mysuru too, normalcy returned by evening with majority of KSRTC buses operating on designated routes, much to the relief of the commuters.

KSRTC DC speaks

Srinivas, KSRTC Divisional Controller (DC), Mysuru Rural said, following the strike call, about 300 buses were operated with the help of outsourced and trainee staff. As the protesting employees resumed duty, the inter-district and inter-State bus services was restarted by evening.

Earlier in the day, the divisional bench of the High Court, that heard a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) questioning KSRTC strike, had taken the Joint Action Committee (JAC) to task.

HC observation

"The HC divisional bench had taken exception to the manner in which JAC had gone ahead with the strike call, despite invoking Essential Services Maintenance Act (ESMA). Though an order was issued not to call for strike, you haven't followed the order. Under ESMA, there is a provision to arrest the office-bearers of associations. By tomorrow (Aug. 6), the Court should be informed of calling off the strike," the Court had directed the advocate representing the JAC.

Otherwise, a case under Contempt of Court shall be filed, the HC bench had warned. Subsequently, the advocate representing JAC had assured the Court that, the Transport Corporations workers won't continue with the strike.

IVF clinics in Government Medical Colleges soon

Bengaluru,Aug. 6 (KMS&VNS)- With the growing demand for assisted reproductive technologies in Karnataka, the State Government has decided to establish In-vitro Fertilization (IVF) clinics across Government Medical Colleges in the State.

Medical Education Minister Dr. Sharan Prakash Patil told media persons that IVF clinics were being opened by that State Government to enable even the economically weaker section to get access to the facility.

The State Government has allocated Rs. 6 crore in 2023-24 budget for setting up IVF clinics. Initially, the clinics will be opened in Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Medical College and Research Institute (SABVMCRI) in Bengaluru, Mysore Medical College and Research Institute (MMC&RI) in Mysuru, Karnataka Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS) in Hubballi and Gulbarga Institute of Medical Sciences (GIMS) in Kalaburagi and one in Mangaluru.

Currently, the IVF treatment in private clinics costs about Rs. 5 lakh which majority of the families cannot afford.

Minister Dr. Patil said that the State Government was yet to decide on the prices.

However, the move to open IVF clinics at Government Medical Colleges will be help many families as the prices are expected to be much lower than private clinics.

Inauguration of 21st edition of Ramsons Bombe Mane tomorrow

Mysuru, Aug. 6- **The 21st edition of Ramsons Bombe Mane will be inaugurated tomorrow (Aug. 7) at 6 pm at No. 91, Main Road, Nazarbad, Mysuru. [Mob: 98801-11625]**

As the monsoon is waning, nature is in the revival mode with every tree blushing with happy green and getting ready for the winter which is just around the corner. The first nine days of sharad-ritu, also called as 'Sharannavaratri' are the auspicious dates when the Goddess Durga is invoked in most households across India in different avatars and rituals. She is offered love, respect and worship with utmost devotion. In the east part of the country, she is adored as the daughter who is returning to her mother's home; in the west, she is propitiated as a mother and her fertile womb (garbha) is worshipped with dance and gaiety. Elsewhere, she is the warrior goddess. But closer home, she is venerated as the divine girl. On the first day, she is six years old, on the second, she is seven and so on... On the tenth day, Vijayadashami, she is Shodashi or sixteen years old.

In South India, the Goddess is a child who loves dolls. Each and every doll in the house is neatly, aesthetically arranged on a tiered pedestal and offered for the divine child for her pastime. This is the celebrated 'Bombe Habba' of Mysuru.

Renaissance of this doll festival of Mysuru happened in October 2005 when Ramsons first organised Bombe Mane. Thousands of dolls from across the country are sourced and specially designed for this exhibition for the past 21 years. Dolls that mirror the aesthetics and cultural sensibilities of our hallowed land are handpicked for best craftsmanship and quality. Dolls made of clay, paper, cloth, wood, metal, glass and ceramics have been diligently collected and displayed at the 'Ramsons Bombe Mane' expo.

In keeping with the tradition, Ramsons design team has designed new doll-dioramas depicting the private royal Dasara celebrations within the palace like Saraswati Puja, Pada Puja, Shami Puja, Ayudha Puja and Vahana Puja.

Inspired from the Mysore style paintings, Goddesses Meenakshi, Kamakshi, Vishalakshi, Indrakshi and Gayatri have been created as beautiful paper mesh dolls. Many more new dolls are going on display along with the regular fare of dolls.

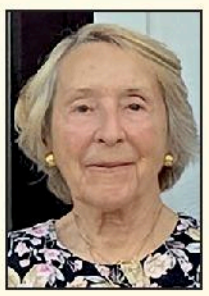
This year, the special display section has three dioramas depicting different facets of the much loved and worshipped Hanuman. Across India, the orange coloured deity of the simian god is invoked for strength, fearlessness, oratory, knowledge, intelligence, friendship and utter devotion. One can behold this beloved god in his different avatars at 'Hanumad Vilasa.'

The 21st edition of Ramsons Bombe Mane will be inaugurated by Raja Krishnappa Nayaka Balavant Bahari Bahadur of Surapura Samsthana. The special display section will be inaugurated by Dr. Helen Philon and Stephane Bloch Saloz, who have founded the Deccan Heritage Foundation. The expo will be open from 10 am to 7 pm throughout the year.

Brief introduction of the chief guests...

Raja Krishnappa Nayaka Balavant Bahari Bahadur, Surapura Samsthana: The present head of the Surapura royal family, Sri Raja Krishnappa Nayaka Balavanta Bahari Bahadur, will inaugurate the event. The Surapura royal family is one of the foremost among the South Indians who revolted against British rule in what is now referred as the Sepoy Mutiny of 1857. They rose in rebellion and paid the price with being subdued and the principality was unjustly treated under the infamous Doctrine of Lapse as the ruler Raja Venkatappa Nayaka IV died childless under mysterious circumstances. His widow Rani Rangamma took over the reins and continued the valorous saga of the royal family whose heritage spans the lives of 17 Rajas since 1636 CE.

Dr. Helen Philon, Founding Trustee, Deccan Heritage Foundation: Helen Philon is a scholar with an M.Ph. in Pre-Islamic Art and a Ph.D on Bahmani Deccan architecture from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. Helen was the curator of the Islamic Department at the Benaki Museum in Athens, Greece and has published works on architecture and conservation. Helen fell in love with the Deccan while studying the region for her doctoral dissertation. Her desire to preserve the historic monuments of this region's for future as she felt a particular affinity for places located at across road of civilization where different cultures can interact. In its ruins she saw an unending dialogue between the various civilisations that flourished in the Deccan for thousands of years. Helen was instrumental in the founding of the Deccan Heritage Foundation in the UK and India as well as that of the American Friends of the Deccan Heritage Foundation in the US.



Stephane Bloch Saloz, Co-Founder and Trustee, Deccan Heritage Foundation: Stephane Bloch Saloz, a Co-Founder of the Deccan Heritage Foundation, is the present Chairman of its Board of Directors. He has also been a Trustee of the Board of the American Friends of the Deccan Heritage Foundation since its inception and since 2024 as a Director on the Board of Deccan Heritage Foundation India. Stephane trained as a lawyer and worked for the international law firm, Baker McKenzie, before joining the Edmond de Rothschild Group in 1978. Having left the Managing Committee of Directors of the Bank Privee Edmond de Rothschild in Geneva, he remained on the Board of several banks of this international group, while returning to Italy. In addition, in 2000, he took the Chairmanship of Christie's Italia. After his term with the international auction house, while keeping his interests and Directorships in Italy. He visits India on a frequent basis.

Speech, hearing impaired youth carves a niche career at AIISH

Mysuru, Aug. 6 (MK&BS)- A speech and hearing impaired youth has achieved on par with others, finding a niche career at the All India Institute of Speech and Hearing (AIISH), a premier institute of the Central Government, functioning in the city.

S.C. Sandesh

This is the inspiring story of S.C. Sandesh, who is employed as Junior Document Assistant at AIISH. A native of Shanivarasanthe, Somwarpet taluk in Kodagu district, he is currently a resident of Mysuru, living with his wife and three-year-old daughter. He owes his life built on grit and determination to AIISH, which has made a difference to the lives of several others, but in varying degrees.

Sandesh was a one-and-a-half-year-old kid, when his mother Triveni, noticed something amiss in him. Unlike his peers, he was neither gibberish in responding to the clap of the hands nor babbling to a childish speech. His mother who had heard about the therapy available for such children at AIISH, through a programme broadcast on All India Radio's (AIR)/ Akashvani, brought him to AIISH.

When the experts evaluated his speech and hearing ability, it was diagnosed that, he lacked ability to hear from his right ear, while he could hear 70% with the help of a hearing aid in his left ear. Since then, he underwent a speech therapy for three years. He had his primary and high school education in the city and later did his Diploma in Computer Science. Sandesh, joined AIISH as a Document Assistant on outsource basis in 2014 and was absorbed into the service as a permanent employee five years later.

Said Sandesh, "When my mother brought me here as a kid to AIISH, the treatment was totally free. Now, the treatment is in the range of Rs. 100 to Rs. 200. For three years, the experts taught me relentlessly and made me memorise what they taught. As I was treated using all methods, I am leading a happy life now. I am married and have a three-year-old daughter. More than that, I am happy to find the job at a place where I was treated to overcome odds."

AIISH Director M. Pushpavathi said, the parents of the kids who behave abnormally, without being able to hear or speak, can visit AIISH and avail of the facilities provided by the Central Government at affordable cost. Along with quality treatment, the emphasis is on special learning sessions for the disabled children to shape their life.

MOVIE LOVERS

NOW SHOWING - SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

Sangam Theatre **Ph: 2520494**
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Gayathri Theatre **Ph: 2443568**
Ekka (K) - 4 Shows

Woodlands Theatre **Ph: 2422871**
Junior (K) - 4 Shows

Mahadeshwara Theatre **Mob: 99008-20093**
Eltuu Muthaa (K) - 4 Shows

Padma Theatre **Ph: 2521923**
Mahavatar Narsimha (K) - 4 Shows

Prabha Theatre **Mob: 98454-14691**
Mahavatar Narsimha (K) - 4 Shows

Lido Theatre **Ph: 2420885**
Eltuu Muthaa (K) - 2 Shows; *Kothalavadi (K)* - 2 Shows

Balaji Theatre **Mob: 98863-25207**
Son of Sardaar 2 (H) - 3 Shows

Rajkamal Theatre **Ph: 2423554**
Housemates (Ta) - 4 Shows

DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422, 4241800

Su From So (K)	(S-1)	1.15 pm, 7.20 pm; (S-2) 1 pm
	(S-4)	10.10 am, 4.10 pm, 7.15 pm, 10 pm
Vritta (K)	(S-1)	10.30 am
Kingdom (Te)	(S-1)	4 pm, 10.10 pm
Dhadak 2 (H)	(S-2)	10 am, 7.10 pm
Kothalavadi (K)	(S-2)	4.15 pm
Saiyaara (H)	(S-2)	10.05 pm; (S-4) 1 pm
Son of Sardar 2 (H)	(S-3)	10.10 am, 7 pm, 10 pm
Ekka (K)	(S-3)	1.15 pm
Mahavatar Narsimha (K-3D)	(S-3	4.20 pm

MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 0821 - 2973519

Saiyaara (H)	:	10.10 am, 6.45 pm
Su From So (K)	:	10.30 am, 1.15 pm
		4.05 pm, 6.10 pm
		6.55 pm, 9.45 pm
Ekka (K)	:	1.05 pm
Mahavatar Narsimha (K-3D)	:	1.10 pm
Son of Sardaar 2 (H)	:	3.45 pm, 6.40 pm
		9.30 pm
Kothalavadi (K)	:	3.55 pm

PVR CINEMAS — 4K Dolby 7.1

Nexus Centre City Mall, 2nd Floor. Ph: 0821-230 0402

Su From So (K)	:	8.10 am, 8.40 am, 9.45 am
		11 am, 1.50 pm, 4.40 pm
		7.30 pm, 10.20 pm
Son of Sardaar 2 (H)	:	9.05 am, 12.15 pm, 3.25 pm
		6.35 pm, 9.45 pm
Saiyaara (H)	:	9.50 am, 1 pm, 7 pm, 10.10 pm
Kingdom (Te)	:	10 am, 4 pm, 9.30 pm
Mahavatar Narsimha (H-3D)	:	11.45 am, 10 pm
Mahavatar Narsimha (K-3D)	:	4.10 pm
Ekka (K)	:	12.35 pm, 7.15 pm
Dhadak 2 (H)	:	1 pm, 10.20 pm
The Bad Guys 2 (E-3D)	:	2.35 pm, 7.35 pm
Eltuu Muthaa (K)	:	3.40 pm
The Fantastic Four: First Steps (E-3D)	:	5 pm
Kothalavadi (K)	:	6.30 pm

1st Floor, Garuda Mall. Mob: 88009 00009

Su From So (K)	:	8 am, 9.50 am, 10.50 am, 1.40 pm
		4.30 pm, 7.20 pm, 10.10 pm
Son of Sardaar 2 (H)	:	10.15 am, 3.50 pm, 10.30 pm
Mahavatar Narsimha (K-3D)	:	10.45 am, 7.40 pm
Kingdom (Te)	:	12.40 pm, 7.05 pm
Vritta (K)	:	1.25 pm
Kothalavadi (K)	:	1.35 pm
Saiyaara (H)	:	3.55 pm, 10.20 pm
Ekka (K)	:	4.35 pm, 10 pm
Dhadak 2 (H)	:	7 pm

INOX LIVE the MOVIE

Mall of Mysore - Mob: 78299-99465

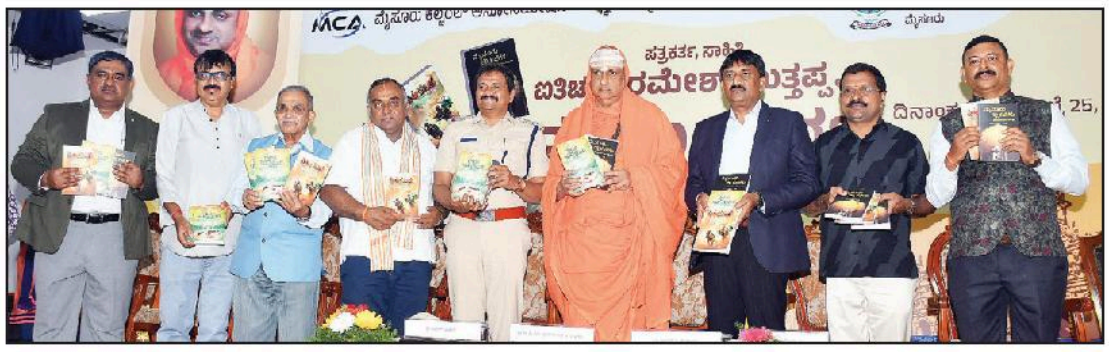
Kingdom (Te)	:	9.30 am, 12.45 pm, 6.45 pm
Nilgiris: A Shared Wilderness (E)	:	9.35 am
Son Of Sardaar 2 (H)	:	9.45 am, 12.55 pm, 4.10 pm, 10.10 pm
Ekka (K)	:	10.05 am, 7.05 pm
Su From So (K)	:	11.10 am, 2 pm, 4.50 pm, 7.40 pm, 10.30 pm
Saiyaara (H)	:	12.55 pm, 10.20 pm
Mahavatar Narsimha (K)	:	4 pm
Dhadak 2 (H)	:	4.05 pm, 10 pm
Kothalavadi (K)	:	7.20 pm

INOX Centro Mysore - Ph: 0821-4283555

Su From So (K)	:	8.20 am, 10.05 am, 11.10 am
		2 pm, 4.50 pm, 7.40 pm, 10.30 pm
Kingdom (Te)	:	9.50 am, 4 pm, 10 pm
Son of Sardaar 2 (H)	:	10.25 am, 12.55 pm, 7.10 pm, 10.20 pm
Thalaivan Thalaivii (Ta)	:	1.05 pm
Vritta (K)	:	1.35 pm
Ekka (K)	:	4.05 pm
Saiyaara (H)	:	4.05 pm
Mahavatar Narsimha (K-3D)	:	7.15 pm
Eltuu Muthaa (K)	:	7.20 pm
Sumathi Valavu (Ma)	:	10.10 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

Journalist's books on circles and gullies of Mysuru released



Three books authored by Senior Journalist Iythichanda Ramesh Uthappa** (extreme right) — **'Mysuru Vruttagala Vruttanta', 'Sindhoora' and 'Mysurina Galli Kathe' — being released at a programme organised at KSGH Music and Performing Arts University on JLB Road in city recently. Seen are** (from left) **Music University Registrar Dr. M.G. Manjunath, Prakash Chikkapalya of Vismaya Prakashana, Maha Vir Chakra (MVC) awardee Lt. Col. (retd.) P.S. Ganapathi, MLA T.S. Srivatsa, KPA Assistant Director Sandesh Kumar, Suttur Seer Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji, Music University VC Prof. Nagesh V. Bettakote and Mysuru Cultural Association President A.P. Nagesh.

Mysuru, Aug. 6 (GA&DM)- Senior Journalist Iythichanda Ramesh Uthappa's three books 'Mysuru Vruttagala Vruttanta', 'Sindhoora' and 'Mysurina Galli Kathe' were released at a programme organised under the joint aegis of Mysuru Cultural Association, Vismaya Prakashana and KSGH Music and Performing Arts University, at the Music Varsity premises on JLB Road here recently.

While Karnataka Police Academy (KPA) Assistant Director Sandesh Kumar released the book 'Mysuru Vruttagala Vruttanta', Maha Vir Chakra (MVC) awardee Lt. Col. (retd.) P.S. Ganapathi released the book 'Sindhoora' and MLA T.S. Srivatsa released the book 'Mysurina Galli Kathe.'

Speaking on the occasion, Suttur Mutt Seer Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji said that the author has chosen three different subjects to pen the books.

Stating that it is a good choice to write on the lanes and bylanes *(gallis)* of the city, the Seer said that the author Iythichanda Ramesh, who wanted to become a soldier, has now taken the pen to write books.

"The heroic acts of our soldiers that have been explained in the book 'Sindhoora' is an inspiration to our younger generation. Every village, circles, roads, lanes and bylanes in towns and cities have their own history. In this backdrop the books 'Mysuru Vruttagala Vruttanta' and 'Mysurina Galli Kathe' contain interesting and informative facts about the history and reasoning behind the naming of roads and circles of our city," the Seer said and wished that the second edition of the Ramesh's books come out shortly.

MLA Srivatsa, in his address, lauded the author for his efforts on educating citizens on the reasoning behind naming of roads, circles, lanes and bylanes of our city, while also highlighting the richness of our land's culture, traditions, practices and history.

EVENTS TOMORROW (AUGUST 7)

- **Sahara Arts and Crafts:** Shopping Festival, Scouts & Guides Ground, **10.30 am to 9.30 pm.**
- **Suttur Mutt, Mysuru Branch:** Shravana Masa Pujanushtana and Discourse Series, Special puja, **Morning;** Mass prayer, **6 pm to 6.30 pm;** Discourse on 'Shivatatva Chintamani' (written by Lakkanna Dandesha) by Dr. B.V. Vasanthkumar, Vaachana by Vid. K. Ramachandra, Suttur Mutt, foot of Chamundi Hill, **6.30 pm to 7.30 pm.**
- **Sri Ramakrishna Ashram:** Swami Jnanayoganandaji speaks on 'Srimad Bhagavad Gita' in Kannada, Ashram premises, Yadavagiri, **6 pm to 6.50 pm.**
- **Ramsons Kala Pratishtana:** Inauguration of 21st edition of Ramsons Bombe Mane by Raja Krishnappa Nayaka Balavant Bahari Bahadur or Surapura Samsthana, inauguration of special display section by Dr. Helen Philon and Stephane Bloch Saloz, Founders of Deccan Heritage Trust, No. 91, Main Road, Nazarbad, **6 pm.** [Mob: 98801-11625]

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ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ)

ಬೋಗಾದಿ ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್.ಸಿ ಅನುದಾನ ಮತ್ತು ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್.ಸಿ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಅಧ್ಯಾದೇಶ 1999 ಮತ್ತು ನಿಯಮಗಳು 2000ದಂತೆ 4ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಮೇಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು ಆಸಕ್ತ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

1) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕಡೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **18.08.2025ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ.** 2) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **20.08.2025ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ** ಅಥವಾ ಮುಂದೆ ಸೂಚಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕದಂದು ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ವಿವರ	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)
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6	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT46696	10.00	25000
7	DMA/2025-26/WS/WORK_INDENT46695	15.00	37500

ಸೂಚನೆ: ಕಾರಣಾಂತರಗಳಿಂದ ಮೇಲೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/-
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ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ, ಬೋಗಾದಿ

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